



Media Contact: Kristan Stengel  
Office: 215-991-8834  
Email: [kstengel@drexelmed.edu](mailto:kstengel@drexelmed.edu)

## **Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Awards Grant to ELATE at Drexel® for Work Advancing Women as Academic Leaders in STEM Fields**

**PHILADELPHIA (January 30, 2013)** – The problem is clear – women are underrepresented in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and particularly so at levels of academic leadership. Executive Leadership in Academic Technology and Engineering (ELATE at Drexel®), a new program working to explore solutions and change these statistics, will use recent funding from a \$500,000 five-year grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation to support a “Cornerstones of Leadership Program Evaluation” project aimed at exploring how to provide high-potential female leaders in academic engineering and the sciences with essential executive skills, networks and mentoring.

As ELATE Director Dr. Diane Magrane explains, “We know much about how to mentor students and junior faculty, but little about what it takes to identify, grow, and support leaders at the level of research team leader, department chair, and dean. With this new grant, we will be able to assess long-term outcomes of ELATE and to further enhance academic leadership development through the discovery of what mentoring practices are essential at this senior level of responsibility.”

ELATE, a program of the International Center for Executive Leadership in Academics at Drexel University, was launched in 2012, with the mission of increasing the number and impact of women in the STEM fields. ELATE is a unique leadership development program that advances knowledge and skills in strategic finance and management, personal and professional leadership effectiveness, and academic organizational dynamics.

ELATE used a 2012 planning grant from the Sloan Foundation to critically analyze the goals of the program and to design tools to measure the outcomes of program, graduates and the impact of their work on our nation’s universities. This newly funded Cornerstones project will collect results of the intense year-long ELATE fellowship using surveys of leadership confidence and practices, outcomes of institutional action projects completed by fellows during their time in the program, and new knowledge of academic leadership and mentoring practices at the level of deans and provosts. The project includes the engagement of a national advisory board of esteemed leaders in academic engineering and an important partnership with the American Society for Engineering Education. Program evaluation tools and outcomes are available via the website [www.drexel.edu/icela/programevaluation](http://www.drexel.edu/icela/programevaluation).

Dr. Elizabeth S. Boylan, program director for the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation adds, “Measuring the impact of a program involves thinking carefully about those outcomes that are most highly valued, and then seeking the best ways to capture the relevant information. I am most pleased that the Sloan Foundation’s support to ELATE will allow us to push on further and faster in advancing women’s academic leadership in engineering and the sciences. I am also excited about

the potential that the evaluation instruments they develop will be used by other programs that focus on professional advancement for their own assessment and improvement purposes.”

The ultimate goal of the project is to develop a system of leadership development for women in the academic STEM fields that results in gender diversity of university science leaders across the nation.

For more information about ELATE at Drexel, visit [www.drexel.edu/engineering/ELATE](http://www.drexel.edu/engineering/ELATE), or contact the program at [ELATE@Drexel.edu](mailto:ELATE@Drexel.edu) or 215-991-8240.

### **About the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation**

The **Alfred P. Sloan Foundation** is a philanthropic, not-for-profit grant making institution based in New York City. Established in 1934 by Alfred Pritchard Sloan Jr., then president and Chief Executive Officer of the General Motors Corporation, the Foundation makes grants in support of original research and education in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and economic performance. For more information, visit [www.sloan.org](http://www.sloan.org)

### **About ICELA at Drexel**

The **International Center for Executive Leadership in Academics at Drexel University (ICELA at Drexel<sup>®</sup>)** is a core program of the International Center for Women’s Health and Leadership<sup>®</sup> at Drexel University College of Medicine. The Center is the home of the Executive Leadership in Academic Technology and Engineering (ELATE at Drexel<sup>®</sup>) and the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine<sup>®</sup> (ELAM<sup>®</sup>) programs, both aimed at increasing the numbers and impact of women in academic leadership. For more information, please visit [www.drexel.edu/ICELA](http://www.drexel.edu/ICELA).